

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-02 EB-07 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 /085 R

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R 031832Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

S E C R E T STATE 075221

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:ENRG, PLOS, PFOR, CH, KS, JA, TW

SUBJECT: GULF PLANS TO DRILL NEAR SENKAKU ISLANDS

REF: TOKYO 3902

1. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO REPLY TO GULF INQUIRY REFTEL  
ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: A) USG HAS CONSISTENTLY ADVISED US  
OIL COMPANIES AGAINST SURVEYING OR DRILLING IN DISPUTED  
AREAS UNTIL CLAIMS ARE RESOLVED. IT HAS FOLLOWED THIS  
POLICY WORLD-WIDE. THE AREA IN QUESTION INVOLVES NOT ONLY  
A DISPUTE OVER CONCESSIONS BETWEEN ROC AND JAPAN BUT ALSO A  
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CLAIM BY PRC. B) AS GULF HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN INFORMED, IF

IT PROCEEDS WITH EXPLORATION IN A DISPUTED AREA DESPITE THIS ADVICE, IT DOES SO AT ITS OWN RISK AND SHOULD NOT EXPECT PROTECTION FROM USG. FURTHER GULF, LIKE OTHER US OIL COMPANIES, HAS BEEN CAUTIONED AGAINST USE IN DISPUTED AREAS OF US-CITIZEN CREWMEN, US-FLAG VESSELS, AND SPECIFIED SENSITIVE EQUIPMENT OF A STRATEGIC NATURE CONTROLLED UNDER LICENSE BY THE USG. C) USG HAS LONG WARNED OF SPECIAL RISKS ON NORTH ASIAN CONTINENTAL SHELF, WHICH WE BELIEVE ARE INTENSIFYING. APART FROM POSSIBLE STRONG GOJ REACTION TO GULF/CPC DRILLING OPERATION IN THIS CASE, GULF SHOULD KEEP IN MIND PRC POSITION. AS US OIL COMPANIES MOVED INTO EXPLORATORY DRILLING PHASE ON SHELF

PEKING HAS WARNED THAT "ANYONE WHO ARBITRARILY CARRIES OUT DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN THIS AREA MUST BEAR THE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL THE CONSEQUENCES."

2. FYI. RECENTLY DEPT HAS STRONGLY ADVISED GULF AGAINST EXPLORATORY DRILLING IN A ROK CONCESSION IN EAST CHINA SEA ABOUT MIDWAY BETWEEN SHANGHAI AND CHEJU-DO. GULF IS NOW NEGOTIATING WITH ROKG TO GET OUT OF OBLIGATION TO

DRILL. GULF REPS MAY RAISE THIS CASE, BUT EMBASSY SHOULD AVOID COMPARING THE TWO. END FYI.

INGERSOLL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM, DRILLING, EXPLORATION, ISLAND CLAIMS  
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**Draft Date:** 03 APR 1975  
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